

The Yea Chronicle

92 High Street, Yea. PO Box 5, Alexandra Vic. 3714

With which is incorporated The Yea Telegraph, The Yea Telephone and Upper Goulburn Advocate

Ph: (03) 5797 2468 or (03) 5772 1002; Fax: (03) 5797 2257; Email: reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au Your community newspaper since 1885 Wednesday, May 22, 2024 \$2.00 inc. GST

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Rotary provides free sausage sizzle for tradies

YEA Rotary set up a sausage sizzle for tradies bright and early on the morning of Wednesday, May 15.

The sausage sizzle took place outside Just Great Coffee, with the permission of the store, between 6.30am and 8am. They chose Wednesday for the event, as it is also the day that Marmalades is closed.

The sausage sizzle was a way to introduce more people to Rotary, and to perhaps gain some more members.

The sausage sizzlers were Gary Cocks, Darryl King and Tony Jacobs.

They gave out around 80 free sausages, and Tony commented on how suprised he was at the number of people out and about at that time of the morning.

Overall, Yea Rotary found the event to be very successful, and are likely to run the event every couple of months moving forward.

The tradies walking past were, of course, very keen on having a free snag in the morning.

Tony said, "Not many of them knocked back a sausage, I can tell you."



Gary Cocks and Darryl King at the sausage sizzle. -S

Police arrest locals in Yea

POLICE have charged two men and a woman following an affray near a hotel in Yea on Friday, May 17.

Police were called to High Street in Yea following reports of a fight between a group of people at about 10.10pm.

The first police to arrive on scene were outnumbered. They confronted with a highly dynamic scene and had to deploy OC spray (oleoresin capsicum spray, also known as pepper spray) to separate those involved in the fight.

As police were attempting to offer aftercare, one of the men involved allegedly attempted to assault one of the officers by kicking out and punching.

While police were attempting to subdue the man, a woman has allegedly jumped on the back of a police officer while the second man attempted to grab the officer's firearm.

OC spray was again deployed and all three were taken into custody.

A 27 year old Yea woman and 29 year old Taggerty man were charged with affray, assaulting police and failing to leave licenced premises.

A 26 year old Glenburn man has been charged with affray and failing to leave licenced premises.

They were all bailed to appear before Mansfield Magistrates' Court on September 18.

Victoria Police have become aware of footage which shows the conduct of one officer in the latter stages of this incident. The matter has been referred to Professional Standards Command for review.

Footage purporting to show the incident has been hosted by a range of news sites. In the video, a police officer is shown repeatedly striking a man with a baton while the man appears to be following police instructions.

In another video, footage appears to show a man being tasered by police as he sits on the ground. Police reviewed the body-worn camera footage and advised that a taser was not deployed. The taser was instead activated and a 'warning arc' was used as a warning.

Wind farm opposition group responds to Fera article

STRATHBOGIES Responsible Renewables Community Group has provided a response to the comments from Fera representatives in the May 8 edition, regarding the proposed wind farm in Murrindindi and Strathbogie Shires.

Landholder rights

The Fera article stated: *Regarding public opposition to the windfarm project, Mr Lawson said, "First and foremost, if people don't want the wind farm on their property, we're respecting that, we're saying that's okay. We still want to talk to you and explain what's going on, but that is absolutely your right to dictate what happens on your property."*

SRRCG response: "This statement is completely misleading and is at the core of the community's objection to this proposal. While host landholders will receive financial compensation for allowing wind turbines and transmission towers or lines on their properties, several hundred neighbouring landholders face the prospect of decreased property values, diminished amenity and well-being, and damage to the unique landscape and its biodiversity. This business model creates an inequitable and divisive situation, where non-

participating landholders bear the negative consequences and participating landholders and the international development company are financially rewarded. Furthermore, the Victorian Government's new Development Facilitation Program exacerbates the issue by expediting the approval process and limiting the community's ability to challenge these renewable energy projects, effectively undermining the rights of landholders to have a say in what happens on their properties."

Community engagement and misleading information

The Fera article said: *Mr Lawson states that "We're looking at providing information to the public. We try and keep all of our reports and everything updated on the website, so as we do an environment report, all of our presentations will be on the website. We certainly make ourselves available to anyone, whenever we receive any communications, and we're proactively going out to try and meet with people," Mr Lawson said. "We are constantly told of incorrect information that is going out into the public and we find that really disappointing. One side has a genuine intent, and is providing information based on*

the facts and what we're actually doing, and the other side is providing misinformation to people about the height of the turbines, the location of powerlines, the height of the powerlines. There's lots and lots of incorrect information. Obviously we're trying to make sure that people have access to the information, and we're able to provide to people in a very transparent way, what's going on."

SRRCG response: "Fera's approach to community engagement lacks transparency and consistency and fails to provide critical information about the project's progress, scope, infrastructure locations, and potential impacts on landholders. Despite commitments to disclose turbine and transmission line locations by the end of 2023, this information remains unavailable, leaving many in the potentially affected community unaware of the project and its potential impacts. Contrary to their assertion that they "keep everything updated on their website," the most recent information dates back to their presentation from August 2023 and this lacks any information about infrastructure placement.

"Mr Lawson has made allegations of misinformation being spread in the

community in several forums. If this is the case, he has had ample opportunity to correct the record in numerous ways but has chosen not to do so. The most obvious way to do this would be to uphold Fera's own breached commitment to provide regular project updates and quarterly community meetings with the whole impacted community. The last community meeting held by Fera was in August 2023, some nine months ago. At this meeting Mr Lawson committed to providing information on locations of project infrastructure and this has still not occurred.

"The Strathbogie Responsible Renewables Community Group (SRRCG) has stepped in and endeavoured to source accurate and up-to-date information, disseminating this through meetings, their website (srrcg.com), and email updates. If accused of spreading misinformation, this has never been directly advised by Fera. SRRCG asserts their commitment to a respectful, inclusive process based on publicly available information. The group welcomes feedback to improve accuracy and fill Fera's persistent information vacuum."

Alexandra District Health
5772 0900

Yea & District Memorial Hospital 5736 0400

In an emergency dial 000



Letters to the Editor

Wind farm

BACK in 2012-13, Infigen Energy took Mitchell Shire Council and other objectors to VCAT regarding the proposal of a wind farm on Cherry Tree Range, which was part of the historically listed Trawool Valley. The two VCAT Chairman approved Cherry Tree Wind Farm in November 2013.

Infigen Energy made modifications to the Planning Permit Development for Cherry Tree Wind farm in November 2018 at the 11th hour when the planning permit was nearing its expiry date. Cherry Tree Wind Farm started construction in January 2019 and was operating in July 2020.

Three different owners have now owned this industrial wind turbine farm within three years. Infigen Energy off-loaded Cherry Tree Wind Farm before they had even had it a year

to Iberdrola who have now off-loaded it to Atmos Renewables.

The two VCAT Chairmen thought that planting a few trees in front of the turbines was the answer to the visual impacts the turbines would cause to the environment and landscape. You can now see the wind turbines from Anzac Avenue in Seymour, on the way home from Nagambie, Puckapunyal, and then as far as Strath Creek. You can't get away from the sight of them.

Another objection put forward to the two VCAT Chairmen by the objectors to the wind farm proposal was that granite attracts lightning strikes and granite is all over the place on Cherry Tree Range and guess what, a blade on one of the turbines was hit by lightning last year and the blade had to be replaced. The new owners must shudder whenever there is an electrical storm.

The two VCAT Chairmen and Infigen Energy were also told many other valid reasons why the Cherry Tree Wind Farm Development was inappropriate on Cherry Tree Range.

Surely, one has to wonder why three owners in three years.

Lola Puddy, Whiteheads Creek

Donation to Legacy

ALEXANDRA, Yea, Mansfield Legacy Group thank the Yea Show Society and their competitors for their donation to Legacy following the Fleece Competition and the sale of the donated wool. It is much appreciated.

Legatee Clare Sinclair for AYM Legacy Group

Four bin system

MURRINDINDI Shire has a draft kerbside and recycling waste services policy up and running. Well, it's over now. Submissions closed Sunday, May 19.

Though it was advertised in *The Standard* (for the last two weeks that I know of) I was unaware of the urgency. That's on me. But I do have concerns.

1. Four bins collected on different days? Heck, I can't remember when the yellow bin goes out.

2. Businesses get to opt out? Nope. That's where most of the mixed recyclables come from, bottles, food waste. If we're going to require households to separate these, then high use places should have this cemented in. That's only reasonable. And supports the government policy.

3. If you miss putting the food waste bin out you have to wait another week for collection. In summer that's certainly untenable.

4. Where do I put the bins? Is the shire okay with 'on the kerb'? That would solve the space issue as well as the forgettery issue. Bins would be out for collection on the right day all the time. Can't imagine how that helps us look like a tourist town though.

So I did do the survey. Hope you all managed to as well.

Valerie Pallaoro, Alexandra



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COMMUNITY DIARY

Local Radio Frequency

UGFM 88.9 Yea / Highlands
UGFM 98.9 Flowerdale / Hazeldene
UGFM 94.5 Kinglake Ranges

WEEKLY

Thu Town Club, RSL Hall, 6-8pm. Ph 5797 2179
Sun AA Anglican Church, Alexandra 7pm PH 0402 428 086
Sun Alanon Recovery, start 5.30pm. Ph Sheila 0402 428 086

MONTHLY

1st Mon St Luke's Seniors, St Lukes Hall, Ph Jenny 0407 972 099
1st Thu Yea Hospital/Rosebank Aux 2pm. Ph 5797 3057
2nd Sat Alex Repair Café 1-3pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801
2nd Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.
2nd Thu Yea Garden Club Yea RSL Hall 1.30pm Ph 0439 870 315
4th Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.
4th Thu Yea CWA Yea RSL Hall, 1.30pm Ph 0400 424 888
Last Fri Yea-Kinglake RSL, 11.30am RSL Hall, Ph 5796 9353



For a \$5 annual fee for one line, your club or organisation's regular meeting dates will be listed each week. Not only is this a reminder to your regular members but also a good source of what groups are available in the community, when they meet and a contact phone number.

RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT

STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon D/S	12.00pm Mon	1.11	steady	below minor
Rubicon River at Rubicon	12.00pm Mon	0.48	steady	
Acheron River at Taggerty	12.01pm Mon	0.60	steady	below minor
Home Creek at Yarck	11.50am Mon	0.17	steady	
Yea River at Devlins Bridge	10.25am Mon	0.51	steady	below minor
Yea River at Yea	11.22am Mon	0.58	steady	
Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin	12.00pm Mon	3.37	steady	
King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale	12.00pm Mon	0.48	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Trawool	12.00pm Mon	0.85	steady	below minor
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	12.00pm Mon	0.31	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Seymour	12.00pm Mon	1.16	steady	below minor
Whiteheads Creek at Seymour	9.56am Mon	1.16	steady	

**ISSUED AT 12.45PM ON MONDAY, 20 MAY 2024



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

can be submitted via email to
editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au or
reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au
or by mail to Alexandra Newspapers
PO Box 5, Alexandra 3714.

Letters **must be 300 words or less**. We will not publish defamatory letters, or content which is offensive, threatening or containing personal attacks. Submitted letters may be edited before going to print.

All letters must contain writers name, address and contact number. (not necessarily for publication). Letters without these details supplied cannot not be published. Deadline for Letters to the Editor is 9am Monday.



Weekly Weather

May 22 - May 28, 2024

Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra

Yea

DAY	LOW	HIGH	DAY	LOW	HIGH
Wednesday	3	15	Wednesday	3	15
Thursday	4	15	Thursday	3	16
Friday	5	15	Friday	5	16
Saturday	5	17	Saturday	4	17
Sunday	4	16	Sunday	4	16
Monday	5	16	Monday	5	16
Tuesday	6	16	Tuesday	5	16



DISTRICT RAINFALL

Alexandra	N/Amm
Buxton	6mm
Eildon (AWS)	2mm
Flowerdale	5mm
Jamieson	3mm
Kinglake	15mm
Lake Eildon	2mm
Mansfield	1mm
Taggerty	3mm
Yarck	2mm
Yea	2mm

Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday

LAKE EILDON

Height above sea level this week	286.42m
Capacity as at 9am Monday	90.3%
Metres below full supply	2.48m
Daily inflow	500ML
Release	1000ML
Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change)	72%



DEADLINES

Real Estate	Thursday 5pm
Trades & Services	Thursday noon
Early General News	Thursday 5pm
Classifieds	Monday noon
Editorial	Monday 9am
Sports Editorial	Monday 10am
Letters to the Editor	Monday 9am
Thumbs up/down	Monday 10am

If you have any enquiries please do not hesitate to contact the office on

5772 1002 or

reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

We thank you for your continued support

AusNet extends grants from the February storms

AUSNET has extended the application deadline for financial hardship grants for Victorians impacted by the catastrophic storms which went through Victoria on Tuesday 13 and Thursday, February 22 this year, which caused unprecedented damage to the energy network.

Following the storms AusNet announced the establishment of a \$10 million Energy Resilience Community Fund. The fund has subsequently been increased to \$12 million. The Fund was created to support communities impacted by storms, with a focus in the short term on supporting local recovery efforts and in the longer term, helping communities become more energy resilient.

AusNet Chief Executive Officer, David Smales, said AusNet has been working closely with local government and the community

to identify opportunities to strengthen infrastructure and help ensure they are better prepared to withstand future weather events.

The Community Fund has provided immediate support to individuals and small businesses most impacted by the storm related power outages who were not eligible for other relief payments.

“The Fund has already provided more than half a million dollars in hardship grants to over one thousand residents and businesses most impacted by these storm events.

“We know many of our customers are struggling with cost of living pressures, so we’ve extended the timeframe to apply for financial hardship grants until June 30, to give households and businesses more time to apply,” said Mr Smales.

AusNet is also in the process of establishing an Advisory Panel for the Community Fund, which will be chaired by former Energy Networks Australia CEO, Andrew Dillon. The Panel will help to guide the management of the Fund ahead of the first community grants round which we anticipate opening in July.

“The Community Fund has an important role to play investing in local resilience infrastructure to help communities better manage the challenges of severe storms, fires and flood, which often cause extended interruptions to local power supplies,” said Mr Dillon.

For more information on the hardship grants please visit ausnetservices.com.au/about/community/energy-resilience-community-fund

Junior Landcare and Biodiversity grants now open

THE Victorian Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grants are now open, with \$450,000 available for projects that involve young people actively caring for Victoria’s biodiversity and natural environment.

Schools, kindergartens, childcare centres and youth groups can all apply for grants of up to \$5000 for projects that encourage young Victorians to learn more about the state’s plants, wildlife and nature through hands on activities or classroom learning.

More than 47,000 young people have been a part of the program involved in 1100 nature based excursions and conducting 270 biological surveys through biodiversity focused learning activities.

Junior Landcare Biodiversity Grant recipients have also planted an incredible 99,000 indigenous plants across numerous landscapes to help maintain ecosystem health.

All initiatives funded as part of the grants program assist the state governments long term plan to protect Victoria’s native plants and animals through the landmark Biodiversity 2037 plan, backed by record investment of \$582 million since 2014 to safeguard our natural environment.

Applications for the Victorian Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grants will close at 3pm on Friday, June 14. For more information and to apply, visit environment.vic.gov.au/grants/victorian-junior-landcare-and-biodiversity-grants

3G closure date extended

ON Monday, May 6, Telstra announced they will be extending their 3G network closure date by two months from June 30 to August 31 to give people more time to upgrade their devices.

Telstra have been communicating the closure of the network for nearly five years but understand there are a range of reasons why some people haven’t moved on.

The closure of the nation’s 3G network is an industry wide change, moving people to better connectivity. Everyone using devices that rely on 3G for either data, voice or

emergency calls will need to make a change to stay connected when it switches off.

Mobile customers who are directly using the Telstra network, or a provider that uses the Telstra network, can check if their handset will be impacted by using the SMS tool. All they need to do is text the number ‘3’ to 3498 (or 3G XT).

In addition, soon customers yet to upgrade will hear a short message on impacted mobiles when making an outgoing call as a reminder that they need to act. This pre-recorded message will only be removed once they’ve upgraded.

Raising awareness for the Leadbeater Possum

AUSTRALIA Post has awarded local Victorian community groups 47 grants as part of the *People of Post* program. With the majority of projects focusing on mental health, the initiative aims to foster community connection, resilience and awareness.

In Toolangi, Friends of the Leadbeater’s Possum Inc received a grant for their ‘*Project Possum*.’

The program aims to engage school aged children in educational activities to help them understand the natural environment and wildlife specifically related to the endangered Leadbeater’s possum.

The project will include visiting schools to provide education and/or taking school groups on forest tours for hands on experience such as planting indigenous plants at Yellingbo Nature Conservation Reserve as well as establishing a new habitat for the Leadbeater’s possum at Haining Farm in Launching Place.

Helping tourism infrastructure projects take off

THE Victorian Government is aiming to support Victorian tourism operators by providing a new grant round of the *Regional Tourism Investment Fund*.

The fund provides grants of up to \$5 million for small and large scale projects and accommodation improvement projects, with the state government’s investment of up to \$62 million to create more jobs and a strong pipeline of demand driven tourism infrastructure projects across the state.

Grants between \$100,000 and \$5 million are open to tourism businesses, not-for-profit, and Traditional Owner organisations.

The grants will be delivered in three streams, between \$100,000 and \$1 million for small scale projects, grants between \$1 million and \$5 million for large scale projects, and grants between \$500,000 and \$2 million for accommodation improvement projects.

The Fund is guided by the five priorities identified in the *Experience Victoria 2033* strategic plan, which includes First People’s led experiences, wellness, arts and culture, food and drink, and nature.

Applications for the *Regional Tourism Investment Fund* are open from Thursday, May 16 until Friday, July 19. To learn more about the Fund visit tourism.vic.gov.au

Affected by a recent major emergency?

You may be eligible for recovery support.

For more information vic.gov.au/recovery



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For any details contact Andrew Embling 0418 266 038.

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Thank you to all our entrants into the 47th Annual Winton ticket giveaway. We have many more entries than tickets. The winners were:

Iain McPherson, Glenburn. Gusty Gale, Alexandra. Lucas Magor, Alexandra. Rod Lester, Goornong. Rod Hanscomb, Alexandra. Helen Bonsema, Acheron. Andrew Edwards, Alexandra. Dot Kelly, Whanregarwen. R Symons, Buxton. John Larson, Alexandra. Congratulations to all the lucky winners.

SUNDAY, MAY 26

Molesworth Rural Fire Brigade AGM will be held at the community hall at 9am. All welcome.

Whanregarwen Rural Fire Brigade Biennial General Meeting and Election meeting will be held at the fire station at 11am. All enquiries to David Roberts 0456 583 806.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

Speak with council at an open community meeting in Fawcett. 5-7pm. For more information phone 5772 0333 or email governance@murrindindi.vic.gov.au

THURSDAY, MAY 30

You are invited to National Reconciliation Week at Buxton Primary School from 10.30am – noon. The event will include a message from the principal, Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony, song in language and a guided tour. Contact council on 5772 0333 for further information.

THURSDAY, MAY 23

Yea Water Tigers AGM will be held at Yea Community House at 6pm. General meeting will follow at 7pm. Enquiries to the secretary yeawatertigerscommittee@gmail.com or phone 0459 248 488.

SATURDAY, MAY 25

Alexandra Community Wood Auction, from 10am Bayley Street, behind Embling Rural.

SATURDAY, JUNE 1

Ambulance Community Officer Recruitment Information Session at Eildon. Ever thought about becoming an ambo? Learn about the role, demonstrations, everyone is welcome. Eildon Community Centre, 45 High Street from 2pm.



THUMBS UP: To Branko Bektas for his window cleaning business. Such a happy bloke and does a marvelous job. My windows are sparkling. Thanks Branko.

Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down is a reader's contribution section of Alexandra Newspapers. Send your Thumbs Up or Thumbs Down to editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au

Contributions will be edited and/or published at the Editor's discretion. We request that this section not be used as a slander attack on persons, businesses or property

The Yea Chronicle

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Church Services

ST PETER'S MEMORIAL ANGLICAN CHURCH

Cnr Bald Spur/Whittlesea Kinglake Rds, Sunday Services, 8.30am Communion. Minister: Rev. Ruwan Palapathwala 0458 113 099

ST LUKE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH OF YEA

Sunday Service time 11am
Prayerful Reflection - held each Tuesday, 10am to 11am - all welcome
Father Mario Hendricks
Ph: 0435 953 777

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ALEXANDRA AND YEA

Parish Priest, Father Jose Mathew 0459 402 547
St Matthews Eildon, Saturday 5pm
Immaculate Conception Parish
Alexandra, Sunday 8.45am
Sacred Heart Yea, Sunday 10.45am

CATHOLIC PARISH OF KINGLAKE

Fr Martin Ashe, Parish Priest
Ph 9717 6482
St Mary's Kinglake: Sunday 8.30am

SCOTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, YEA

Station Street Yea
Sunday Service 11.15am
Colin Whiteway
Ph 0457 340 525

UNITING CHURCH

1st and 3rd Sundays 9am, 1050 Main Road, Kinglake West. 9716 2330

Pride flag raised for IDAHOBIT



Cr Sandice McAulay raising the Pride flag in Alexandra. -S

LAST Friday, Murrindindi Shire Council celebrated IDAHOBIT, the International Day Against LGBTQIA+ Discrimination, by raising the Pride Flag at their council offices in Alexandra, Yea, and Kinglake.

They also raised awareness by handing out information about IDAHOBIT at pop-up stands in Alexandra and Yea, and by keeping the Pride Flag raised until the end of June to celebrate Pride month.

The council Facebook post stated, "Why is it important to celebrate this day, not just today, but every day? Because LGBTQIA+

people in Australia still experience disproportionate rates of bullying, harassment and discrimination.

"As part of the shared community vision, council strive to create an inclusive community, embrace diversity and encourage the participation of all.

"IDAHOBIT is a day for the communities to go rainbow and stand up against discrimination. Whether you're part of the LGTBQIA+ community or you're an ally, today we stand together."



The Pride flag outside the Murrindindi Shire Council office. -S

Last chance to contribute to the draft budget

MURRINDINDI Shire Council has released their draft budget for public consultation. This is your last chance to have your say, particularly if you have ideas which you believe need to be considered in the budget. Submissions are due by Friday, May 24.

In the draft budget for 2024/25, 15 per cent of the budget is being spent on recreation and open spaces, 20 per cent on community, health, planning and safety, 18 per cent on waste and recycling, 33 per cent on roads and infrastructure, and 14 per cent on other items.

Fifty-seven per cent of the shire's funding is expected to come from rates and charges, 18 per cent from operating grants, 13 per cent from capital grants, seven per cent from statutory fees and user charges, and five per cent from other income.

The shire's forecast underlying operating surplus for 2023/24 is \$3,464,000 in deficit and is forecast to be \$3,634,000 in deficit in 2024/25. Their liquidity is reducing, with their operating income insufficient to cover their operating expenses.

They noted that they are constrained in their income, with their main sources of regular income, such as rates, capped below inflation. Their ability to fund the renewal and replacement of assets is also not keeping pace with the rate of asset deterioration.

Like many local government areas (LGAs), Murrindindi Shire has expressed concern about the state government's cost shifting, whereby the state government is requiring councils to take on more responsibility for providing services and infrastructure without providing adequate funding.

The shire noted that Federal Government grants don't cover recreation in their disaster funding, creating an impost on the budget, and that small rural councils are experiencing a disproportionately higher share of, and impact from, natural disasters and extreme weather events.

Victorian Grants Commission (VGC) grants have also remained consistently below \$5 million since 2010/11.

The State of Victoria Local Government Finance report from October 2022 shows that small rural shires, such as Murrindindi, have significantly lower performance on financial sustainability compared to other LGA types. Only metropolitan and interface councils were shown to be in surplus.

Murrindindi Shire Council is aiming to identify further efficiencies through services reviews, digital transformations and sharing services with other councils. There is also expenditure which is expected to save the shire money, such as energy efficient street lighting, residual carbon offsets and special charge schemes, and are working to facilitate growth in the shire through partnering for key worker housing and looking to encourage the development of vacant land through increasing the differential to 200 per cent, up from 150 per cent. They will also work with the community to rationalise assets.

For further information, visit theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/budget

Volunteering at Yea CFA Brigade

THIS week is National Volunteer Week, and Captain Emery McCarthy from the Yea CFA Brigade took the opportunity to discuss volunteering opportunities at the CFA.

The brigade, which is 15 members strong, is currently bringing on board two new recruits, and are looking for more interested people.

“Yea has 15 active members at the moment, and we respond to a wide range of incidents from structural fires to grass fires as well as road crash rescue. So we’re a pretty strong brigade,” Captain McCarthy said.

“We’re currently recruiting, and we have two new members going through the recruitment process. We’re definitely looking for more, just given our response and the different incidents we respond to, it would be great to have more numbers and we’re looking in the wider community.”

If anyone is available to come down and volunteer some of their time, that would be great. Full training is provided, and even if you are only able to volunteer for a couple of hours a week, it would be appreciated, not just by us, but by the wider community.”

In terms of what Yea Fire Brigade is looking for, they need both operational and non-operational personnel, as well as various volunteering times throughout the day.

“We are recruiting operational as well as non-operational members. So non-operational members can assist us around the station with fundraising, community events, anything that isn’t emergency response related.”

But then we’re also recruiting operational firefighters, so when you start out as a basic firefighter, you do your general firefighting training. From there we can train you up into which path you want to go, whether you want to stay as a wildfire firefighter or move into the structure side, or road crash rescue side,” Captain McCarthy said.

“But we’re looking for anyone, all times of the day. Preferably daytime response. That’s where we need stronger recruitment for daytime responders. Say you’re a parent, and you’ve got kids at school, and you’re available during the day, that would be great.

“Or if you work in town during the day and are able to leave work and assist during the day, that would be great. But we’re recruiting for whenever anyone is available really,” Captain McCarthy said.

Those interested in volunteering for the CFA can either go to the CFA website, or call Captain McCarthy personally on 0429 151 534.

“They can go on the CFA website, and navigate to the recruitment hub and put in an expression of interest. Or they can contact me on my mobile number, and I’m more than happy to have a chat about different opportunities and what is available to them,” Captain McCarthy said.

“The door’s always open. If you’re walking past and see us at the fire station and want to drop in and say hi, you’re more than welcome. Even, bring the kids in and we can show them the trucks. Just feel free to drop in and say hi.”



VCE students from Yea High School at the Melbourne Museum. -S

Yea High School’s great learning opportunity

YEA High School’s VCE Health and Human Development students recently had the opportunity to attend the *Road to Zero* space at Melbourne Museum.

The students applied their knowledge of the Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion and Sustainable Development Goals to the important issue of road safety.



Students learning about the very important topic of road safety. -S



Students had the opportunity to learn through interactive experiences. -S

National Volunteer Week for the CFA

THIS National Volunteer Week (NVW) the Country Fire Authority (CFA), and their partner emergency service volunteer organisations, acknowledge and thank the tens of thousands of Victorians for their unpaid contributions to their communities.

This year’s NVW theme “Something for Everyone” is particularly relevant to CFA, the state’s largest volunteer organisation, where they provide many opportunities for members to play a role which suits them, gain skills and qualifications, and reach their potential.

Not only is the organisation a core part of Victoria’s emergency service network, but members also gain social connections and build a greater sense of inclusion within their local town.

CFA thanks and celebrates its 52,000 volunteers for their ongoing dedication in protecting Victorian communities.

The ‘Give Us a Hand’ recruitment campaign, launched last year, proved a huge success with more than 1800 highly skilled and professional new members recruited across Victoria.

Acting Chief Officer, Garry Cook, said it was extremely encouraging to see so many Victorians sign up to be a volunteer and be part of something bigger in their local community.

“CFA recruited 1844 new members since the campaign launched in August last year and we continue to grow,” Garry said.

“Across Victoria brigades have recruited members and continue to, but there are some areas still in need.”

Our organisation is unique in offering volunteers the opportunity to gain leadership skills, training and experience while serving their communities. It’s also a great place to meet and work with people from all walks of life.”

The push for more volunteers to join CFA is an investment in the future of Victoria’s emergency response and recruitment is ongoing.

Regional and rural communities are still very much in need of more volunteers particularly daytime responders and young members.

“We are looking to recruit from all of the community to ensure CFA brigades are truly reflective of the communities they serve and protect,” Garry said.

“Anyone interested in taking on a new challenge should get in touch with their local CFA brigade or go to the CFA website.”

There is something for everyone at CFA whether you want to train up as a firefighter or take on a support role at the brigade.”

Some of the types of incidents CFA volunteers respond to include road crash rescues, structure, grass and scrub fires and hazmat incidents.

“Our volunteers are some of Victoria’s greatest assets and we are grateful to each and every one of you who has put up your hand to join CFA.”

If you’re interested in joining CFA or learning more about volunteering, visit cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteer

Once you’ve submitted your expression of interest online, your local brigade will contact you regarding the next steps.

There are many ways you can give us a hand.

Your local CFA Brigade needs you, and there are many ways you can help. Roles include daytime firefighters, community educators, and support roles. You don’t need experience, and you’ll be amazed at what you will achieve, while fulfilling a vital and rewarding role in your community.



Scan the QR code to find out how you can help.



Student of the Week

Proudly supported by Yea & District **Community Bank®** Branch



YEA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Congratulations to Saxon, Lilly, Toby, Jake and Jax, our Values Award winners from week four.

These students have been showing our school values and doing such a good job.

Student of the Week

Proudly supported by
Kinglake branch



Vale Laurance Alan Cassell

by Laurance's family

LAURANCE Alan Cassell was born in Yea on January 8, 1934, to Myrtle and Allan Cassell. His sister Marion was born two years later.

Laurance developed mild polio during his first year of school, causing him to repeat the year. A very good student, he received many achievement awards at both levels of schooling.

In 1950, he became an apprentice at his father's garage, again receiving achievement awards. Cassell's Garage had been established in the 1920s, close to the Yea Shire Hall.

The business was one of the first RACV depots in Victoria through the 50s. They also had taxis and a tow truck. Laurance worked most nights with lots of taxi trips required by those working on the Eildon Weir project and other trips up to the Murrindindi Timber Mill.

Back then, Yea had no ambulance and Laurance had many stories of various trips rushing injured people to Melbourne in the taxi unaccompanied, just him and the patient. This included a couple of gunshot injuries, appendicitis, and numerous other emergencies. On these trips Laurance would be met by a police escort on the outskirts of the city.

Laurance married Lesley Wright on November 23, 1957. His close friend, Donald Nash, was his best man and his sister the Matron of Honor. Laurance formed a close

bond with Rita and Alec Wright, his in-laws. Laurance and Lesley had three children, Leanne, Sharyn and Alan.

In 1972, Laurance and Lesley purchased R A Cassell Pty Ltd from the rest of the family. An accomplished mechanic, panel beater, spray painter and auto electrician, Laurance could turn his hand to most things. He was a very capable businessman, selling many Chrysler vehicles through the 60s and 70s. His dealership stretched from Bundoora to Mansfield. In 1980 when Mitsubishi took over Chrysler in Australia, R A Cassell became a Mitsubishi dealership.

In 1982, after the sale of the business Laurance enjoyed farming with Lesley on their land at Killingworth. Going to cattle sales, slashing on the tractor, irrigating and many hours with the chainsaw cutting wood. Laurance did miss his mechanical work and eventually set up a smaller business at Anne Street where he worked for another 35 years.

Despite various problems with his health, it was always a priority for him to get to his workshop each day. This he managed, eventually with a walker and later a scooter. The garage served the people of Yea for close to a century.

On June 1, 2021, aged 87 years, after looking after his customers for his entire working life, Laurance retired.

Laurance had a great love, not to mention ability, for ballroom dancing. Yea Dance Group was originally formed to raise money for the new Accident and Emergency Department at Yea and District Memorial Hospital. Instead of the dances ending it was decided to keep the monthly charity dances in the Yea Shire Hall going. Many weekends were spent travelling throughout Victoria and NSW to attend gala balls, occasionally giving demonstrations of new dances at Seymour Gala weekends.

In 2012 when the regular debutante instructor, Bruce Kindred, was unable to continue, Laurance and Lesley stepped in and with the support of many special members of the Yea Dance Group continued to do this for the next four years. Over 25 years were spent both running and teaching dances in the Yea Shire Hall. Many learnt the finer art of social ballroom dancing from Laurance and Lesley.

Laurance's final years were spent at Rosebank where he was very involved in the resident's meetings. He enjoyed socialising and participating in most activities on offer. He formed great friendships with both staff and residents.



Laurance Cassell on his 75th birthday. -S

He was a wonderful husband for 66 years, father, father-in-law, grandfather, great grandfather and friend. He will be loved and remembered always.

Consultation opens for Murray Darling Basin Plan

THE Victorian Government is aiming to protect the nation's food bowl and the future of regional communities while also meeting Victoria's obligations under the Murray Darling Basin Plan.

Minister for Water Harriet Shing has published *Planning Our Basin Future Together: A prospectus to safeguard Victoria's environments and communities across the Murray-Darling Basin*.

The prospectus has been developed following extensive and meaningful engagement by, with, and for, Victoria's basin communities. It details the next steps Victoria will take following the Australian Government's decision to buy back up to 450 GL of additional water.

Following the release of the prospectus, community engagement will continue across Victorian basin towns, with industries and stakeholders to identify new alternatives to open tender water purchases, projects and outcomes that deliver healthy waterways and resilient environments, without causing harm to communities.

These community-driven options will then form the basis of negotiations with the Australian Government on delivery, to ensure Victorian basin communities' priorities are front and centre in the Commonwealth's delivery of the Basin Plan.

The prospectus follows the Australian Government's long-awaited agreement that funding for Victorian environmental

projects is essential to the delivery of the Basin Plan.

Victoria remains opposed to buybacks and has not signed any agreement with the Commonwealth Government in exchange for this funding.

Victoria continues to negotiate for a fair share of Australian Government funding for vital water recovery projects and confirms support for outcomes that do not create disadvantage.

Minister for Water, Harriet Shing, said, "We've done more than any jurisdiction to return water to the environment, improve the efficient use of water, and crack down on water theft."

"Our communities know better than anyone that healthy waterways mean healthy communities and productive crops, and we will continue to work with the Commonwealth and all basin states to innovate, collaborate, and deliver better outcomes for the entire basin."

"We will continue our advocacy with and for Victorian communities and the environments they depend upon, while protecting households from avoidable increases to the cost of living."

For more information about the next steps and where to get involved visit, water.vic.gov.au/our-programs/murray-darling-basin/planning-our-basin-future-together.

You can have your say at engage.vic.gov.au/planning-our-basin-future-together. The consultation closes on June 16.

Native timber support available now

Native timber harvesting has ended in Victoria but support is still available.

Native timber businesses, workers and communities can continue to access a range of support including:

- **The Victorian Forestry Worker Support Program** –including payments and training, 1:1 case management, employment services, health and wellbeing support.
- **Business support** – including exit packages and funding to help diversify.
- **Community support** – health and wellbeing services and community development planning and funding.

For more information:

- Forestry Transition hotline - 1800 318 182
- Victorian Forestry Worker Support Program - 1800 122 001 vic.gov.au/forestry





Driving tired? You won't see the crash coming.

Fatigue is a contributing factor in 16-20% of all road crashes in Victoria.

If you're feeling tired, arrange an alternative mode of transport, postpone your trip, or get more sleep before driving. Because when you drive on less than 5 hours sleep, you're 4 times more likely to crash.

Driving tired? Wake up to yourself.





Bill and then the flower pot men

THE Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) is backing a private members bill that would remove regulations stopping farmers from growing industrial hemp.

VFF President Emma Germano said the Hemp Industry Bill 2024 introduced into the Victorian Parliament by the Legalise Cannabis Party provided an exciting opportunity for Victorian farmers and industry to unlock the benefits of hemp.

“Victorian farmers want to be able to invest in industrial hemp, but the regulatory burden is simply too heavy. We commend the Legalise Cannabis party for their leadership on this opportunity for Victoria.

“We know hemp holds vast potential for various applications, including sustainable agriculture and construction materials. Removing government barriers, particularly those that are onerous or confusing, will unlock hemp’s full benefits, including

the potential for secondary processing and manufacturing.

“We need government to get out of the way and give farmers the opportunity to harness the full potential of hemp cultivation and create new opportunities for our regional communities,” Ms Germano said.

The introduction of the bill follows the 2023 parliamentary inquiry into industrial hemp where the VFF had called for removing unnecessary regulatory barriers.

“The laws regarding industrial hemp are not fit for purpose and create an ongoing stigma that links the crop with illicit drugs. Industrial hemp has been allowed to grow in Victoria since 1998, but the stigma and onerous regulations that require licences and expensive testing has made it too difficult for farmers and industry to invest. Industrial Hemp has the potential to provide Victoria with sustainable building materials, which



The Victorian Farmers’ Federation are backing a bill to remove regulations around farmers growing hemp. -Chmee2

we know are in increasingly short supply,” Ms Germano said.

Hemp can be used in the production of a wide range of products, including textiles, paper, building materials, abrasive chemicals, oils, food, inks, cosmetics and more.

“I encourage Premier Jacinta Allan and her government to look at the opportunities that industrial hemp production will bring to Victorian farmers and support this bill through the Parliament,” Ms Germano added.

DO YOU HAVE A PASSION FOR AGRICULTURE IN MURRINDINDI SHIRE?

Expression of interest (EOIs) are sought from individuals with a passion and interest in growing the agricultural sector in Murrindindi Shire.

Shaping Murrindindi’s Future Project is now looking for members to form part of the Innovation Working Group in Sustainable Agriculture, Aquaculture and Horticulture to help deliver projects that will create jobs within the region.

We are looking for people to who are:

- knowledgeable industry experts
- local farmers
- business owners
- interested community members

Being part of this project, you will be supporting opportunities in regenerative agricultural practises that produce quality products, support and expand local agricultural education programs, and identify projects that will continue to support the economic and social wellbeing benefits of environmental stewardship.

For more information, and if you are interested and want to be involved, please contact Allisha Milestone on amilestone@murrindindi.vic.gov.au, or fill in the online contact form at shapingmurrindindisfuture.com.au

EOIs close 23 June 2024.



SAVE THE DATE

May 24 - Yea Saleyards

Free flu vaccination
Weaner Sale 9.30am
Combined Agents Store Sale

May 31 - Yea Saleyards

Autumn Store Sale 9.30am

June 7- Yea Saleyards

Combined Agents Store Sale 10.30am

July 5- Yea Saleyards

Combined Agents Store Sale 11.30am

Get in touch

Phone 0419 722 570

Email: saleyards@murrindindi.vic.gov.au



PHOTO COMPETITION

APRIL WINNER PUBLISHED IN MAY 8 EDITION
Submit your photo competition entry for May, for your chance to win a \$50 gift voucher from Dindi Country Clothing in Alexandra.

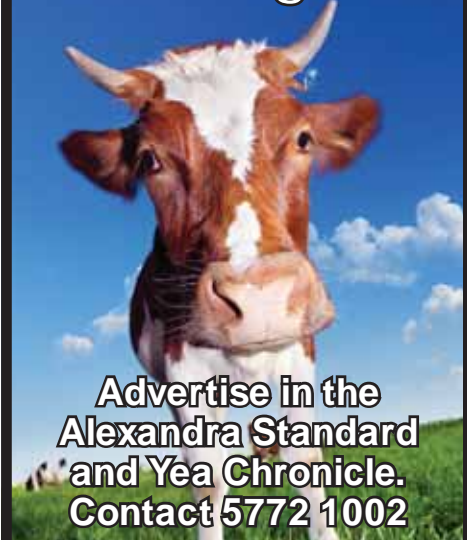
The May theme is OPEN: ‘on the land’.
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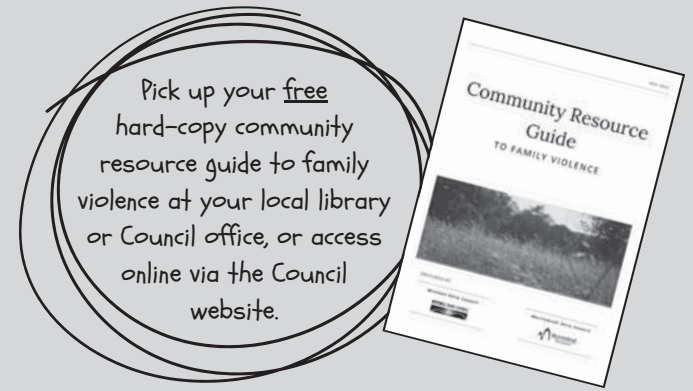
Your favourite recipe

Do you have something you love to cook for your family, something you cook all the time, or grandma’s family recipe? Send it into us and we will publish it to share with our readers. Attach a photo (if you have one); send your name and if you have a little 20 word description about your recipe, share that with us too.

Send recipes to manager@alexandranewspapers.com.au

A Little Respect

Creating space for conversations in our community about important topics related to relationships, gender equality and family violence prevention.



Lee has worked in a variety of fields spanning multi-national corporations, social non-profits and Local Government. She is passionate about raising awareness of important issues in the local community, particularly related to gender equality and family violence. Lee operates with curiosity over conflict and believes we all have something to learn from one another. Lee's work aligns with her studies in law and criminology, but mostly with her lived experience as Victim-Survivor. She recently spoke at a state-wide Local Government Forum headlined by Grace Tame, and is currently the Free From Violence and Gender and Diversity Officer at Murrindindi Shire Council.

Topic of the month: IDAHOBIT Day

On 17 May 1990, the World Health Organisation (WHO) removed homosexuality from the Classification of Diseases. Yes, you read that right. 1990 really isn't that long ago. The first official International Day against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT) was held on 17 May 2005 and is now acknowledged every year by millions of people around the world. IDAHOBIT celebrates the progress we have made whilst recognising the discrimination that LGBTQIA+ people still face. For example, 35% of LGBTQIA+ Australians have experienced verbal abuse in the past 12 months. There's more we can do as a collective to make our communities feel safe and welcoming for everyone, beyond IDAHOBIT last week.

In Conversation with Amy

Murrindindi Shire Local & Rainbow Community Member

What does IDAHOBIT mean to you?

I consider IDAHOBIT a time to acknowledge the struggles and challenges faced by LGBTQIA+ people everywhere. It is a time to reaffirm our commitment to equality and inclusivity as a community. It is also a reminder of the importance of understanding and empathy, just as much as it is about being courageous in standing up against discrimination in all its forms.

As part of a same-sex couple, what worries you when you're in public that people in heterosexual couples might take for granted?

Something as simple as holding hands requires careful consideration of the environment. We must assess whether this seemingly innocent act might provoke a negative reaction from others or potentially place us in an unsafe situation. It just means there we have to be hypervigilant in a way that others might not. Also, upon entering a new workplace, I'm cautious about discussing my partner. I often opt for gender-neutral pronouns when mentioning them until I feel it's safe to reveal that I'm in a same-sex relationship. Most LGBTQIA+ employees aren't fully 'out' at their workplace and it can feel lonely for many in the LGBTQIA+ community. However, I want to acknowledge that the experiences I've described only scratch the surface of the discrimination that many individuals in the LGBTQIA+ community experience. I recognise that I hold a certain level of privilege as someone who outwardly conforms to societal expectations of how a woman 'should' appear, and the safety net this affords me. It is far simpler to brush off assumptions that my partner is my sister than to potentially endure objectification or even abuse for whom I choose to date.

What is a common misconception about queerness?

I think the most common misconception is that people choose their sexuality. This is untrue. Sexuality is not a choice. I am fortunate to have supportive family and friends around me, and so, being queer is a non-issue. The only thing that matters to my loved ones, is that my partner is respectful and makes me happy. I know others are not as fortunate. It really concerns me when I hear people say that sexuality is a 'lifestyle choice.' This perpetuates outdated and harmful stereotypes. And, it can be pretty hurtful.

What are some visual signals that make you feel welcomed and safe when you're out and about?

It is the little things that make the biggest difference. For me, shops or eateries displaying signs in their windows saying 'all genders, sexualities, identities, and cultures welcome' is an immediate green flag. Having rainbow stickers on entry doors and staff wearing rainbow and/or pronoun badges also helps put me at ease. However, for spaces to feel truly safe, these demonstrations of allyship should be coupled with zero-tolerance policies (towards derogatory remarks based on identity, sexuality, gender, or culture) for establishments promoting inclusion.

What are people afraid of when they protest against equality, queerness or gender diversity?

The belief that acknowledging and celebrating LGBTQIA+ diversity somehow divides communities instead of unifying them. This was starkly evident at last year's pride flag raising in Murrindindi Shire. These protests weren't surprising but were still upsetting. IDAHOBIT does not divide, it promotes inclusion. If you identify as a straight person, challenge yourself to imagine an alternate reality. In this reality, you face repeated discrimination for being straight, and you seek to be recognised as equal to same-sex/queer couples. In your valid fight for equality, you are told your sexuality is an immoral 'choice' and that you don't deserve even one day a year to raise awareness about this injustice. It's awful to think about. So, if someone being heterosexual doesn't bother you or impact your life, neither should the sexuality of anyone else concern you. Celebrating diversity is proven to strengthen communities. It is my hope we can hold this close as we look to the future.

Let's Talk: A Space for Men

Thursday 20 June, Yea Shire Hall
12 noon - 2.00 pm then networking until 3.00 pm

Men's mental health is vitally important. Men and boys need more spaces to talk about the things that impact them. Nobody gets everything right all the time and that's okay! We invite men, boys (and anyone with an interest in the issues facing men and boys) to join together for this exciting event and FREE leadership opportunity, headlined by keynote speaker Tarang Chawla. Guests include Cr Damien Gallagher, Murrindindi Shire Mayor, an expert from the Men's Project, Ray Steyger, Alexandra Football Club President, and some other local blokes you might know, will also be part of the panel. Scan the QR code to secure your place.



Next time: is family violence a men's issue?

How can men help prevent violence against women? More and more, men are being called upon to get involved and speak up about violence against women. But what does this really look like? And why is it a men's issue anyway? We'd love to hear what you think! Do you have any thoughts/suggestions? Simply email communitydevelopment@murrindindi.vic.gov.au to get in touch. Your identity will remain anonymous.

Getting support

Call 000 in an emergency or if you are in immediate danger.

- 1800 RESPECT: 1800 737 732
- Minus 18: Resources help & guidance for Australia's LGBTQIA+ youth. Visit the website below: www.minus18.org.au
- Rainbow Door: A free specialist helpline for LGBTQIA+ Victorians. Phone: 1800 729 367 or visit www.rainbowdoor.org.au
- Safe Steps Family Violence Response Centre: 1800 015 188
- Orange Door Goulburn: 1800 634 245
- Nexus Primary Health: 1300 737 732
- Lifeline: 13 11 14
- Djirra Aboriginal Women Support Service: 1800 959 563
- Mensline Australia: 1300 789 978
- 'Are You Safe at Home?' website: areyousafeathome.org.au

Shire to recognise volunteers at 2024 Community Awards

MURRINDINDI Shire Council is getting set to hold a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner to celebrate the 39 individuals and community groups nominated for having made an outstanding contribution to the shire. The event will be held on May 25 from 6pm in the Alexandra Shire Hall, and can be livestreamed via the council Facebook page or heard on UGFM radio.

Mayor Damien Gallagher said, "Our nominees are the embodiment of the vibrant community spirit of our shire. They are active, approachable, and inspirational. They are hardworking team players, mentors, and problem solvers who invest time and effort, displaying empathy, effective communication, and conflict resolution skills. Their recognition is a testament to their partnership with other volunteers, working towards the best outcomes for our community. As we proudly announce the nominees, remember that everyone is a winner and deserves to be celebrated."

The nominees for this year's awards are listed below.

Volunteer of the Year

Naomi 'Nomes' Booker: Nomes volunteers at UGFM radio, chatting with the wider community in her own unique way. She was also influential as a core member of the Thornton / Rubicon Community Plan Program.

Tamara Fowkes: As well as running a protea farm, Tamara is a Rotarian and heavily involved in Kinglake Market's success. She also volunteers with local clubs, including Net Set Go, the Kinglake Country Fair, Foggy Mountain Music Festival and Kinglake Library. She uses her social media skills to help community groups, including the Kinglake Art Show. Tamara also helps decorate the town with CWA and has a soft spot for animals and local wildlife rescues.

Sarah Hopkins: Sarah volunteered as the secretary of Flowerdale Community House for three years, volunteers and fundraises for Flowerdale Primary School and is an integral part of the BMX Feasibility Study team. She is currently part of the Flowerdale Community Planning core team.

Ursula Jenkins: Ursula manages Boomerang Bags in the Kinglake Ranges, running weekly sewing sessions to make the bags, at the same time providing a much-needed opportunity for social interaction. She has assisted with grant funding for the local primary school, volunteers at the school and puts time and effort into getting community initiatives up and going.

Peter 'Scott' Kerr: Scott has an overall willingness to volunteer whenever needed, he ensures that essential medical appointments and social events are accessible to all members of the Acheron community.

Darryl King: Darryl volunteers with Rotary (any way he can), Murrindindi Woodbourne Hub, Goulburn Valley Suicide Awareness Group and holds a Yea Community Cancer Charity event, and Open Gardens program. He is also an important part of the brigade management team for the Murrindindi CFA.

William Koster: William has started many youth groups in the Taggerty area from Lego club to the Triangle Junior CFA. He is involved in many of the local events in an effort to help grow the Taggerty community.

Jessica Slapp: Jess is part of the Thornton Eildon Football Netball Club executive team and played a pivotal role in the Thornton Community Planning project, the Thornton History Society, and spearheaded the efforts to create the Thornton Trike Track.

Jared Sloane: Jared volunteers at the Thornton Football Club, Alexandra Golf Club and contributes to the successful Thornton Trike Track.

Darren Thomas: Darren has served the Thornton community for many years. In the local CFA, he was instrumental in bringing the Tour De Cure (national fund-raiser) through Thornton.

Young Volunteer of the Year

Layla Calder: Layla volunteers at the Flowerdale Opportunity shop, managing their social media. She always helps the older generation of volunteers with any struggles they may have. Layla even took on the role of assistant coordinator last year for three weeks.

Alexis Holder: Alexis is a junior member with the Kinglake CWA, she also volunteers time at Kinglake Market, library and neighbourhood house as well as studying for her VCE.

Tara Jane Nieuwhof: Tara is a volunteer member of the Alexandra Unit of VicSES, attending various emergencies and rescues, including the recent flood and storm events.

Senior Volunteer of the Year

Barb Guttridge, Sandra Hanley and Diane Quick: Nominated together as leaders of the Yea Strength Training Group, for many years Barb, Sandra and Diane have been running weekly classes for the over 50s as a preventative health program. They gently encourage the fitness of older people to enable a better quality of life.

Bob Burns: Bob is president of the Kinglake Ranges Rotary Club and has been a volunteer member since 2011, leading the youth sports program and clubs in Kinglake. Ensuring the safety of volunteers at the Kinglake Market is his top priority. He also volunteers at sport facility working bees, a 4WD trip raising funds to send 20 young drivers to Murcotts Defence Driving Course, and serves breakfast at the Anzac Day service and the Foggy Mountain Music Festival.

John Cannon: John has been a board member of CEACA, now Alexandra Community Hub (ACH), for the past 23 years, 10 of those years as chair. He works with other volunteers ensuring the organisation runs well at an operational level, including supporting the transition for ACH funding away from training activities. John has also been a member of Rotary and involved with the Alexandra Art Show.

Ron Cooper: Ron has been actively volunteering for approximately 20 years, managing the Goulburn Valley Book Shop, which is run by Friends of the Library. The Alexandra Bookshop is well regarded by the community with people coming from all over the state, especially from Melbourne to find specialty books. Ron is legally blind and deaf and will be 80 years old in August 2024.

Gail 'Dolli' Dollimore: When the Marysville Gym closed, Dolli saw an urgent need and formed a small committee and set about fund raising, establishing a not-for-profit incorporation of the community group. Dolli and the team overcame many challenges and the Tri Active Life Gym finally opened in 2022 at Marysville Community Centre. She is a strong advocate for health and fitness and active aging, including diabetes awareness. Dolli said, "It's a place for all to exercise safely."

Christine Exton: Christine began volunteering for Kinglake Ranges Inner Wheel Club in 2018 and has undertaken many roles including secretary and is currently in her second year as president. As well as increasing the volunteer base by almost 30 per cent, she has picked over 4000 daffodils for Daffodil Day, and runs the barbecue at Kinglake Market which raises funds for important medical research. Christine is the current membership officer for the Kinglake Historical Society.

Sharon Fox: Sharon volunteers for numerous organisations of which she is a member and/or office bearer including over 25 years with Yarck Fire Brigade, secretary with Yarck Hall Committee including the monthly market, Alexandra Golf Club/Racecourse committee member, Rotary, CWA and long-term member with the local Landcare group.

Heather Joblin: For 27 years, Heather has volunteered on all types of conservation and revegetating activities with Flowerdale and Strath Creek Landcare. Other volunteer work includes Flowerdale Primary school, ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day, Corryong fence restoration, Christmas carols and the Goulburn Valley Suicide Awareness Group, including the Blue Tree initiative.

Julie Lynch: As Youth Service Director at the Rotary Club of Yea, Julie has overseen and implemented the Schools Bursary program. She was president of the Rotary Club of Yea in 2011-12 and is the inspiration behind Cycle Dindi, which has been running for eight years, bringing 150 riders annually to Murrindindi Shire with fundraising to support the youth of the Shire.

Patricia Maxfield: 'Tricia' has transferred her skills as an activity group coordinator in aged care to leading several line dancing groups each week. The classes support community connection especially for senior community members.

Graeme Robb: Graeme has contributed exceptional volunteer service in Eildon and surrounds for over 50 years. He has served in the Thornton CFA since 1966 where he is currently treasurer. He has occupied most positions, including captain. Graeme served as an Ambulance Community Officer for 52 years, the majority of which was as a volunteer. He was instrumental in the development of Eildon Tennis Club and more recently a member of the Thornton Community Planning core team.

John Sharwood: John moved to Murrindindi Shire in 1991 and joined the CFA, Rotary Alexandra and the Cathkin Cemetery Trust. John joined the Kellock Lodge board in 2002 and was chair in 2011-13. He is a member of the Alexandra Library Committee and was a key driver behind building the new section of the Alexandra Library. He is also a generous supporter of Kellock Lodge, the Opportunity Shop and Rotary. The fact that John is still so actively volunteering at 90 is an inspiration to us all.

Geoff Walker: There is hardly a snag cooked in the Taggerty area has not been cooked by Geoff Walker. He volunteers with the Community Hub, regularly drives for the Red Cross and works tirelessly assisting community members with their mowing, pruning and cleaning. Geoff is heavily involved with the band *Pans on Fire* as a musician and a contributor.

David Web Ware: David has a rich service history with the CFA, and since the late 1970s has played an active role in helping to keep the community safe from fire. He has responded to hundreds of emergencies including the Black Saturday 2009 fires, and more recently the 2022 floods and the 2023 Flowerdale fire. In addition to the fire and flood emergency responses, he has responded to many call-outs such as road vehicle accidents and fallen trees following storms.

Community Group / Initiative of the Year

Murrindindi Beanie and Fibre Festival: For over the 10 years the committee have been hosting the well organised community arts event, the Murrindindi Beanie and Fibre Festival in Alexandra, an event created by the community, for the community. Anyone can participate by knitting, crocheting beanies or winter warming items, or by creating fibre art, which is donated by the artists and available for sale with funds going toward Alexandra Rotary providing firewood for the elderly and disadvantaged people to warm their homes in winter.

Alexandra Community Christmas Tree Festival: For the last 10 years the Alexandra Shire Hall has been transformed each December into a forest of beautiful Christmas trees and twinkling lights, bringing the spirit of Christmas. This includes street decorations and the beautiful tree which adorned the main street. The Alexandra Community Christmas Tree Festival is organised by a small group of community minded, very hard-working organisers supported by a bevy of volunteers.

Yea Community House: The team host the popular Yea Cruise Night for car enthusiasts, meeting in the main street of Yea to support traders and accommodation providers. The monthly event brings people together from across the state on the grassy strip in Yea. There is nothing better than getting some local food, drink, or ice cream whilst sitting, talking and enjoying the atmosphere of the Yea township.

Boomerang Bags Group from Kinglake: The group saw an issue with waste, single-use plastic bags and increasing pressure on landfill. The aim of the project is to divert waste fabric from landfill by recycling material, cutting it up and sewing it into reusable shopping bags. The group firmly believes in the inherent value of each volunteer and their contribution.

Eildon Visitor Information and Resource Centre: This facility was re-opened after COVID-19 by Jenni Shaw in December 2023. Since then, with the help of Eildon Action Inc, volunteers have kept the Eildon Visitor Information Centre well maintained and open five plus days per week, benefitting local community and visitors seeking guidance about Eildon and surrounds. The big bookshelf offers second-hand books free of charge and local groups access the space regularly. Fundraising includes selling of Eildon souvenirs, produce and local artwork.

Murrindindi Shire Council's Road Advisory Group (CRAG): This is a group of 16 community members that meet voluntarily to provide community views and create positive outcomes for the local community. They assist council's road asset management team to determine acceptable levels of maintenance, renewal, acquisition, expansion, upgrade, disposal, and decommissioning of road assets under the control of council.

Tri Active Life: This group is run by a committee of management that is supported by a number of volunteers who run the day-to-day activities. A Not-for-Profit group located in the Triangle area providing a low-cost opportunity for residents of all abilities to connect and improve their health and wellbeing.

UGFM Radio Murrindindi: UGFM is the shire's community radio station, and is operated by volunteer broadcasters trained by the station. With studios located in Alexandra, Kinglake, Marysville and Yea, UGFM updates the community with safety information, local news and broadcasting community announcements free for not-for-profit community groups, clubs and organisations.

Glenburn Hall Friday Night Dinners: These dinners create a welcoming space for local people to socialize, connect, share a meal, and support their mental and emotional health. The team members (hosts) show leadership and are dedicated to preparing meals, building community and through their culinary skills, they nourish not only bodies but also hearts. Their impact resonates far beyond the Friday night meal.

Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre: The Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre has been staffed by volunteers 7 days a week since it opened almost 10 years ago. This achievement is due mainly to the 57 wonderful volunteers who staff the reception and run tours for visitors, locals, seniors groups and school students. They ensure visitors and locals have the best possible experience. The retention rate of volunteers at the centre has continued to go against the national trend of shedding volunteers post-COVID-19. In fact, 19 new volunteers have joined the cohort since January 2021.

PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS
Page 12



Anna Kennedy-Borissow. -S

Role of the arts in disaster recovery

ANNA Kennedy-Borissow, a PhD candidate for the School of Culture and Communication at the University of Melbourne, took the time to discuss the findings of her research on the creative arts in relation to disaster recovery.

The research Ms Kennedy-Borissow conducted last year for her PhD focused on “creative recovery, which is a term used in Australia specifically, to describe community engaged arts programs that typically aim to support the social and psychological recovery of disaster affected community members.”

“My research has involved interviews with creative recovery facilitators stretching across the country, and five focus groups with community members that have participated in creative recovery programs, in different states, and also four observations of different projects. That was all conducted last year,” Ms Kennedy-Borissow said.

“My findings have been focused on trying to identify some of the benefits and challenges to community members engaging with these programs, and also to understand the working conditions for the artists and other creative workers that are delivering these projects on the ground.”

Ms Kennedy-Borissow said the response to creative programs in disaster recovery was positive, and that people felt they provided a safe space for community members.

“Pretty consistently the community members have talked about the benefits of these projects for helping their communities come together after these disasters. This has helped improve their cohesion, their community cohesion, it’s been a way of developing or maintaining friendships, which have been really valuable as a source of social support for people after experiencing disasters.

“It’s also been an emotionally regulating experience for a lot of people, by doing arts and crafts activities with their hands, or participating in a choir, for example, those different activities have been quite emotionally calming and regulating for people.

“Community members have also talked about how creative spaces are really safe spaces for them, to come as they are, but also to eventually over time feel comfortable with sharing parts of their story with other community members, and hearing about the experiences of other people and feeling less alone,” Ms Kennedy-Borissow said.

She added that her research hadn’t specifically covered comparing different art forms and the benefits received by each, but that she felt that the benefits come from creative activities that the community is excited about.

“There are some effects that are received in particular art forms that aren’t in others. So for example, in arts and crafts, they’re activities where the focus is on doing with your hands, and people have talked about that being a great environment to promote conversations.”

So having a clear task and that kind of structure, and also the ability to not have to make eye contact is really helpful for people to be able to share their stories.”

But really it’s about what types of activities resonate with particular community members, and their ability to make their own meaning or get what they want out of participation.”

Asked about public output and how it can aid in the promotion of creative programs and thus, disaster recovery, Ms Kennedy-Borissow said that it was a good source of pride for participants and a good way of getting the wider community engaged.

“I think that public output is often really valued by participants, because it gives them a source of pride in what they’ve created with the support and collaboration of others. It also offers the opportunity for the wider community to connect with the project, so for someone who might not feel that they’re up to directly participating in creative activities, they might feel more comfortable being an audience member, or seeing someone they know do a performance, or exhibit part of a visual arts exhibition, and that can be really meaningful for people as well, to feel like their experiences are being reflected. It can still have that effect of helping people feel like they’re not alone in their experience.”

For example, in Lismore after the floods, there was an exhibition called Rescue, which was a photographic exhibition with transcripts of interviews with civilian rescuers there. I think there was about 50 people in the Northern Rivers used their own jet skis and boats and other vessels to rescue 1000 fellow community members from rooftops, and this rescue project was interviewing those civilian rescuers and then exhibiting their portraits and their stories in a community run gallery.”

And in that example, there were so many benefits to those people attending. Firstly, for some people it was about them being able to identify who had rescued them. It was also an opportunity to honour the efforts and work of their fellow community members, and celebrate and feel proud of those community members, and really honour those experiences, and feel like what they’ve been through has been remembered and acknowledged.”

Speaking to recognition of the arts as a positive source of disaster recovery, Ms Kennedy-Borissow added that she would like to see more actions taken to make creative programs a more viable option in disaster recovery.

“Often funding will only become available for projects after disasters occur, and that can delay the timeframe for artists becoming imbedded in communities and really understanding what they would find meaningful, and then artistic experience. And then being able to make sure that those projects are done really safely and sustainably.

“I would like there to be more public awareness and advocacy for the value of the arts in disaster recovery.”

“Regional Arts Victoria is the peak not-for-profit organisation for regional arts and has been administering funding on behalf of the state government for more than 10 years, following on from Black Saturday. This is always in response to a specific disaster event, so there is a legacy of these kinds of programs being funded.

“I would argue that it’s clear that government do recognise the value, but they’re yet to take the step of including any actions in policy and recognising that these kinds of programs require expertise and resources, that benefit from advanced planning and preparation,” Ms Kennedy-Borissow concluded.

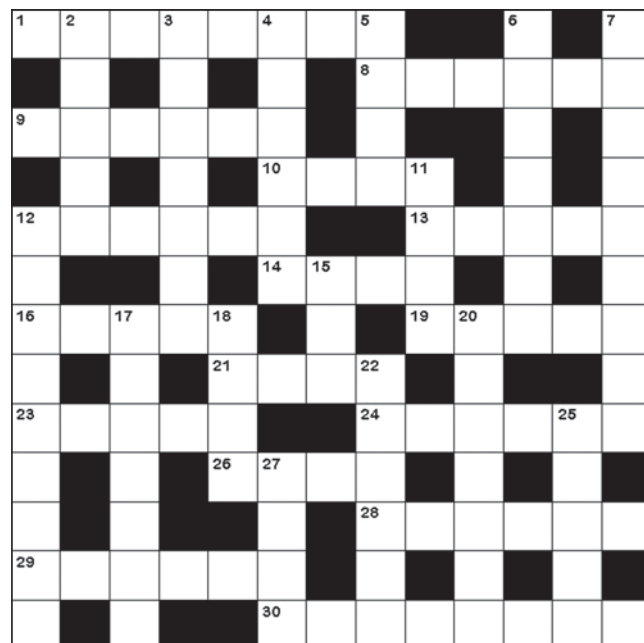
Crossword

ACROSS

- An unmarried woman.
- Lure with desire.
- Comes close to.
- Expresses in words.
- Small, black creepy crawly.
- A feather on a helmet.
- Run with an easy stride.
- Common noxious weed.
- The most worthless parts.
- Primitive and untamed.
- Lacking experience of life.
- Ran one car into the back of another.
- Traditional dress worn by Indian women.
- Spoken aloud.
- A ribbon-like strip of pasta.
- Give a task to another person.

DOWN

- An annoyance.
- Shows to be false.
- Tuft of loose threads secured by a knot
- Depend on.
- Something fastened in position.
- Extremely unhappy and dispirited.



- Moved very fast.
- The first stage.
- Lubricating substance.
- Arc of coloured lights in the sky.
- Female sheep.
- Playing about boisterously.
- Stupid or childish talk.
- Make a strenuous effort.
- Succeeded at easily.

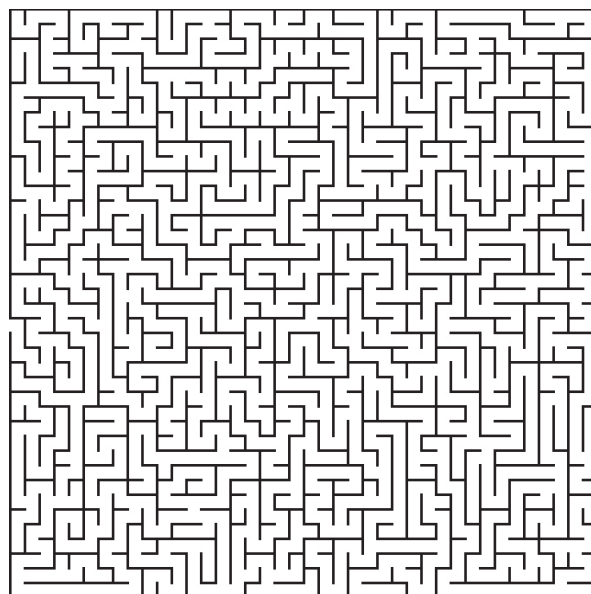
Word Search

ENDANGERED SPECIES

- BILBY
- PANDA
- BLUEWHALE
- POSSUM
- BONOBO
- QUOLL
- BOODIE
- SKINK
- KOALA
- VAQUITA
- NUMBAT
- WOYLIE

P A G J A N S J X O N Y E M B
Q A T V P L I S E U U I I K D
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Maze



Sudoku

		1	5					6	
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	1	7					6	5	
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Difficulty: Hard

Fill in the boxes using the numbers 1 to 9. Every row and column and every group of 9 boxes inside the thicker lines must contain each number and letter only once.

Cryptogram

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
4				22				5						26						1					

$\frac{I}{2} \frac{A}{5} \frac{O}{19} \frac{A}{19} - \frac{A}{19} \frac{E}{22}$
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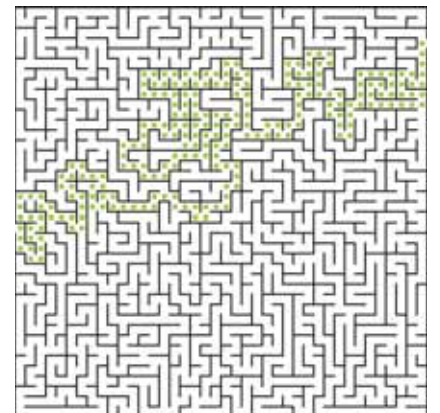
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MAZE



SUDOKU

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CRYPTOGRAM

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
4	2	11	8	22	3	17	10	5	21	13	19	16
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
7	26	20	18	25	23	24	1	12	14	15	6	9

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MEETINGS

MOLESWORTH Rural Fire Brigade AGM and election will be held on Sunday, May 26, 2024 at 9am at the Molesworth Community Hall. All welcome.

YEA Water Tigers AGM will be held at Yea Community House. Thursday, May 23 at 6pm. All positions declared vacant. General meeting will follow at 7pm. Enquiries to the secretary: yeawatertigerscommittee@gmail.com or 0459 248 488

DEATH NOTICES

MURIEL, Perry.
The Yea and District Historical Society were saddened to learn of the passing of our esteemed member and strong supporter. Muriel will be sadly missed by us all. Our sincere condolences to the family.

RIGG, Christopher (Chris) APM
25/09/1946-
16/05/2024

Loved husband of Kay, loving father and father in law to Graeme and Nerida, Wayne and Marcia, and Andrew and Michelle. Proud and adored pa of Jackson, Emily, Charlie, Sienna, Mikayla and Kai.

TATE, Peter
1968 - 2024

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Peter. He is dearly missed by his family, friends and loved ones.

A private memorial service will be held.

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BEREAVEMENT THANKS

CASELL, Laurance

The family of Laurance Casell wish to thank all those who offered their condolences and kind thoughts to us on his passing. We also thank those who cared for Laurance in his final years.

Firstly, at Yea Memorial District Hospital then Nathalia Hospital, Kellock Lodge and finally Rosebank Nursing Home. We thank all the medical staff who cared for him during this time. Rosebank became his home on the November 15, 2021 and we extend special thanks to all Rosebank staff for making his two and a half years there, a happy time. We also thank the residents who spent many hours enjoying activities and socialising with Laurance. He truly enjoyed his stay.

TENDERS

Yea Cemetery Trust is seeking tenders to provide grounds maintenance services at both Yea Lawn Cemetery (Meadow Road, Yea) and Yea Old Cemetery (Moyle Street, Yea).

Tasks required, but not limited to:

- Mowing and lawn maintenance
- Edge trimming – whipper snipping
- Weed control
- Watering
- Grave site maintenance
- Installation of plaques
- Placement of ashes
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- Garden maintenance around Shelter (Lawn Cemetery)

Interested parties are asked to contact the Yea Cemetery Trust Secretary on 5772 0333 to obtain a scope of works.

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Close matches in winter tennis round five

by Rhonda Carpenter

EVERY match was in the balance in the Euroa and District Winter Tennis Competition last Monday week. Only one or two games separated the teams playing in Euroa, Mansfield and Terip.

In Euroa, Marja Wondergem, Sue Vaughan, Gayle Furphy, and Lisa Krepp took a slight edge for Creighton's Creek against Moglonemby in the opening sets, winning one eight to five and losing a tiebreak set. Sets were shared throughout the day, scores mirroring each other till the end.

Judy Sands, Marlene Hanrahan, Robyn Johnson, and Lyn Johnston were up to the task, winning the tiebreak set and taking two more eight to four. When scores were tallied Creighton's Creek had won the match by merely two games, 3/39 to 3/37.

In Mansfield, Delatite played Seven Creeks, and Mansfield met Euroa. Delatite's Karyn Fraser, Jo O'Brien, Loretta Armitage, Deb McCormack, and Deb Mims combined well, against the visitors. Rowena Ellis, Rosie Cameron, Genevieve Calvert, and Jill Hayes were supported by Euroa's Jenny Tehan who stepped in after an injured player couldn't continue in the first set.

In her first match of the season Jenny's experience helped Seven Creeks to get over the line in a tough contest. Rowena and Jenny won a tiebreak set against Karyn and Deb Mims, who were unable to close it out this week.

Seven Creeks won 4/41 to 2/29. Loretta Armitage was player of the day.

Mansfield's Michelle Pigdon, Peta Kelly, Keira McDonagh, and Sophie Yencken were up for a long battle against Euroa's Chris Ellis, Faye Mollison, Ruth Nolan, and Julie Harrington in their match. Sets were split evenly with Mansfield edging out Euroa by one game to win the day 3/34 to 3/33.

In Terip, Cindy Hayes and Frances Lawrence were up and about in their opener against Wappan's Anna Speirs and Liza Karras defeating them eight to one. Phoebe Mcdermid and Jenny Martin were in for a much longer tussle with crosscourt rallies against Wappan's Jenny Bell and Rhonda Carpenter. The Terip pair eventually took the even set eight to six while teammates watched on.

Anna and Jenny combined superbly to win their set eight to five, and both were strong in the third set with partners Rhonda and Liza winning eight to two and eight to six respectively. Wappan had warmed up as the sun shone brilliantly on the Strathbogie plateau.

Scores were tallied and Terip had won the day by two games, 3/37, to 3/35, to take top spot on the ladder for the first time this season.

Ladder: Terip 32, Euroa 30, Seven Creeks 30, Benalla 27, Creighton's Creek 23, Mansfield 22, Wappan 19, Moglonemby 15, Delatite 2.

Single point wins at Alexandra Squash Club

by Kristelle Leary

Monday Comp

MURRAY Cods v Redfins

James G (fill in) v Charlie: A good match throughout, closer than the final score indicated. Both players were using good court position with Charlie taking each game and the match. 70 to 47.

Justin (fill in) v Daniel W: Both players fought all the way to the final point in this magnificent match. Daniel played some great power shots while Justin tried some loopy serves to make his opponent rush his shots. Despite making numerous errors, Daniel still came out on top. 60 to 59.

Jim v John: Another close match for the night. Jim fought back, only to lose by one point. Some early error in the first game proved costly for Jim and allowed John to take the win. 52 to 51.

Trouts v Yabbies

Mick v Lee: A close match with Lee holding the upper hand through until game three. Mick started to find the middle of the racquet and with a big final game he came from behind to win by four. 54 to 50.

Oli v Pep: Two games each with players taking alternating games. Pep accumulated some extra points to take the match. 64 to 58.

Derrick v Andrew: Great rallies and brilliant shots played

by both, very enjoyable to watch. Derrick managed to snag a couple more points than Andrew to take the victory. 52 to 50.

Thursday Comp

Cherry Ripe v Smarties

Beth v Sam: The match started close with only a few points in it. Sam found his groove and annihilated Beth in the second half to take a good lead. 76 to 50.

Kristelle v Lucas (fill in): Lucas started off strong racking up points. Kristelle managed to claw back a game from Lucas and tie the final game. When the curtains closed Lucas took home more points for the win. 63 to 54.

James W v Stuart: Attempting to keep in the match, Stuart kept fighting. Sadly for him, James won each game with an enormous lead. James won, with more than double the points. 92 to 45.

Jaffas v KitKats

Blake v Aiden (fill in): Blake was on the move this week. Aiden found his form by the last game, but Blake had already done the damage. 73 to 53.

Jodie v Rob: Jodie started like a house on fire. After some coaching, Rob pulled it together to come out on top. 59 to 55.

Michael H (fill in) v Phil: Taking the first and third game, Phil was here to win. Michael took the second and drew the fourth, but it was too late. Phil was triumphant. 56 to 53

SPORT



Katie from Yea FoodWorks with the team from Yarrawonga who came third. -S



Katie from FoodWorks in Yea with the winning team from Kilmore. -S

Yea Bowls Club annual Fours Tournament

by Viv Cavanagh

THE Yea Bowls Club held their annual Fours Tournament last Saturday. Despite the chill in the air, bright sunshine prevailed throughout the day and the green and grounds were in immaculate condition creating an enjoyable atmosphere for all those who attended.

FoodWorks Yea sponsored the prize money of \$1800 which was very much appreciated.

Sixteen teams participated from various places all over Victoria including two teams from Avenel, Bennettswood, Nagambie, Wallan, Yarra Junction and Yea and one team each from Broadford, Kilmore, Strathfield-Saye and Yarrawonga. It was an all day event with players arriving early in the day, to enjoy morning tea, before heading out to the green, playing two games consisting of 10ends each, before stopping for lunch. After a delicious lunch of quiches with salad and slices, competitors then headed back to the green to play the third game of the day.

The competition was close with only three teams winning every game. Kilmore and Yarra Junction both had scores of 51

but Kilmore were the winners with a shot difference of 33 for Kilmore, and 18 for Yarra Junction, placing them second. The third was Yarrawonga with a total score of 49. The winner of the best last game was a team from Bennettswood. Katie, from FoodWorks, was present to hand out the prize money to the winners.

Many club members helped to make it a successful day by either preparing and serving the meal, preparing the green beforehand or recording the scores to find the winners. Jeff Green was the official umpire for the event and was called upon for a few measurements.

A raffle was held to supplement the costs of running the event and thanks must be given to Yea Meats, Yea Pharmacy, Garden Centre Yea and Yenkens Hardware for their generous donations.

The Yea Bowls Club President, Leif Elenius, thanked all teams for coming along and participating, and expressed his gratitude for the FoodWorks' sponsorship, stating how pleased he was with the day, both socially and financially.



The tension was obvious with the outcomes of the day. Dale McKeon, Plymouth Dale Photos



A crackerjack day the bowl tournament at Yea. Dale McKeon, Plymouth Dale Photos



Large field of competition. Dale McKeon, Plymouth Dale Photos

Big Fields for Yea Golfers

by Alan Pell

LAST Saturday there were over 50 golfers on the course. Twenty eight men contested the stableford NJ Murray Event round two. Winner of the day with 36 points on count back and the NJ Murray was Brendan "Trout" Chenhall (15).

Second on the countback on the day was Tom White (17) with 36 points. Third was John Tanner (26) on countback from fourth

Taris Dunne (38) on 35, with fifth going to Phil Armstrong (21) on countback from Stephen Rumney (26) with 34. Nearest the pin on the 14th was Mic Spagnolo and the club award went to Peter Johnston. Trout won the NJ Murray with 72 points from second Kevin Coghlan with 70. Tom White was next with 69 from John Tanner 67 and Tony Rule 65. In the ladies stableford, the winner was Ladies Captain Jan

Wealands (32) with 36 points from Vicki Clements (25) with 31.

Last Wednesday, saw 17 men play a team event with Alan and Zach Pell winning the two person Irish Stableford with 59 points. In this event the best Stableford points of the two is counted on holes one to nine and both scores on holes 10 to 18.

Second team were Brian Priestley/Sam Wright with 57

followed by Neil Peterson/Luke Gregory 55. Phil Armstrong was nearest the pin and the Club Award went to Gary Pollard/Jeff Aurisch.

Knockout results so far in round one has seen John Tanner defeat Paul Clayton, Brian Priestley defeat Sam Wright, Tom White defeat Steve Rumney, Ken Whitfort defeat Andrew Bohn, Kevin Coghlan defeat Mic Spagnolo and in round two Anthony Coleman defeated Russ Wealands.



Winner of the day with 36 points on countback and the NJ Murray was Brendan "Trout" Chenhall. -S

Two losses and a win for Yea Tigers

Football

Under 12

Yea 4.1 – 25 defeated by Broadford 10.2 - 62

by Shane Barbetti

YEA Tigers were defeated by Broadford last weekend, but once again the scoreboard doesn't tell the whole story. The Tigers were somewhat understaffed as their star Evan Porter was out injured and they suffered an in-game injury to one of their stalwarts in Jack Johnston who will now be out for a few weeks.

Broadford kicked eight goals to half-time to the overwhelmed Tigers nil. Archie Armstrong and Sienna Duncan battled hard in the middle as did Benji Dredge in the ruck. The highlight of Benji's first quarter was a bone-jarring bump on a Broadford opponent who tried to shepherd him out of the contest which seemed to make Benji run harder.

The second half was much more successful for the young Tigers as once again their fitness came into play and they outscored Broadford four goals to two. Cooper Baynes had an outstanding second half and kicked three goals straight. He used his ability to read the play well and took strong contested pack marks. Excellent straight kicking made his Dad's goal umpiring job easy.

Ashton Garlick and Angus McGillivray also played out the game well and kept the pressure on the Broadford backline.

Under 14

Yea 0 defeated by Broadford 25.21 - 171

by Tania Day

AFTER a two-week break the team were keen to get out and play again. Over the weekend they were at home against Broadford.

The club had good numbers this week (17) with five under 12s playing up and new team member Kai joining the crew. Broadford were excellent from the start and kicked some quick goals. The Tigers fought hard and produced some great defensive play. Half time saw the Roo's leading by 11 goals.

A quick rev up by Happy at half time and the team were back out trying their best. The backline worked tirelessly in the second half but unfortunately, Broadford were too good. The team have been training hard on the huddle moving the ball out of full back and it was great to see the Tigers applying their learning in game time. Credit to all the children for playing their hardest yet again.

Thanks to all the volunteers, who without them, we wouldn't get the children on the ground each week having fun and keeping active. Bye next week, and next game Seymour at Seymour on June 2.

Awards: Sammy Heyen & Ashton Fontana

Under 16

Yea 8.19 – 67 defeated Alexandra 3.13 - 31

By Nick Fisher

LAST Sunday the Yea Tigers under 16s played Alexandra in Yea. The boys came out with intent from the first bounce. After a couple of points Jack Mullis snapped the first goal from the boundary which gave all the boys a boost. Despite Alexandra trying hard and not giving up the Tigers were just too strong and took home the win.

Goal kickers for Yea were Thomas Undy with three, Jack Mullis with two, Dustin Fisher with one, Tayte Hoefchen with one, and Tander Fairchild with one. All of the boys played a fantastic game, the two standout players who received the awards were Tom White and Thomas Undy.

This Sunday Yea travel to Shepparton to challenge Moama.



Yea Tigers under 16 players singing the song. -S



Under 12 players P Burton, D Tai, A Barbetti, and J Tato. -S



Under 12 players A Fontana and S Heyen. -S

Win and a loss for Yea Tigers netball teams

Netball

Under 13

Yea 28 defeated Broadford 8

by Deb Schickerling

THE under 13 Tigers came into the game feeling confident, sitting on top of the ladder and coming up against bottom of the ladder Broadford.

The Broadford girls gave Yea a bit of a surprise in the first quarter showing great improvement in all areas hitting the front early in the quarter which meant Yea had to adjust and refocus, which they did, but led at the first break by only two points. The Tigers focus of one percenters was being implemented up and down the court with lots of turnovers by both teams.

The second and third quarters Yea was able to keep the Roos scoreless while still effectively scoring themselves. The last quarter Yea held strong and balanced the court better than they had and strong intercepts in the defensive end saw Yea the victors.

Marmalades player of the week: Pippa Butterworth for her reading of the play and positioning; Yarra Valley Gas most improved: Ruby McKay for her strong ring and midcourt defense.

Under 15

Yea 19 defeated by Broadford 47

by Kelly Harris

IT was the grand final rematch with the Yea Tigers under 15 netball team meeting the Broadford Roos for the first time since the 2023 final. The Tigers always knew this

would be a challenging match with Broadford bringing a strong and consistent team.

The first quarter saw Jemma in the centre with Maya and Ella teaming up in goals. Broadford got a few quick goals at the start of the quarter but Sienna and Micayla were able to hold them to nine while Yea managed to score five.

Several rotations were used in the second quarter with Lily and Hannah working in the wings to support the rest of the team. Goals were difficult to come by for the Tigers in this quarter and Broadford continued to pull away. Scores at half time were Yea seven to Broadford 21. Injury and illness saw the Tigers down a few players

however they continued to soldier on with Maya and Jemma scoring the most amount of goals for the Tigers in this term.

Marley worked hard in centre to provide support down both ends of the court. Elsie demonstrated her capacity in the ring as goal defender, making it difficult for the Broadford shooters at times. Scores going into the third term were Yea 14 to Broadford 38.

The Tigers came out strong in the final quarter, never giving up, and scoring the first three goals of the term. Maya and Marley showed their versatility moving from attack into defence for this quarter and reducing Broadford's scoring options. The Tigers fought until the



Under 11 division two award winners Emily Wilsher and Zoe Alldrick. -S



Under 13 award winners Ruby McKay and Pippa Butterworth. -S

end however unfortunately could not match the pace and accuracy of the Broadford team during this match.

Award winners were Marley Leatham (player of the week) and Elsie.



Under 11 award winners Tahlia Waghorn, Isla Anstey, Hayley Krickic and Evie Madden. -S



The under 11 team photo for the Yea Tigers. -S

The Chronicle Sport



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Rya Roberts leading the field at the Numurkah round of the Golden Power Series. -S

Breakthrough Golden Powers win for Rya and heading to Nationals

by Melissa Roberts

AFTER a solid top 25 finish at nationals, it was off to Numurkah for round three of the state based Golden Power Series. After a heavy night of rain the track was wet for practice which saw Roberts quickest in the sessions. A solid qualifying placed him second for the start of the heats.

After taking the lead on lap two of heat one, Roberts led for the entire race until being hit in the rear and spun with three corners to go.

"I managed to get the kart back on track after a hard hit and finish seventh," said Roberts.

"Not ideal considering I lead the whole race and a pretty unfair incident that didn't have to happen."

Back on grid for heats two and three, Rya lead from lap one to take the checkered flag first for both races.

Rya said: "The kart felt fast and I just focused to get the job done with consistent times and making no mistakes."

Starting from position three for the final Rya was in the lead by lap two and there was no looking back. After almost a clean sweep of the weekend the final was run and won by Rya.

"Everything just came together this weekend, the kart was on point and I was determined to get my first final win and overall round victory."

The initial plan for 2024 was to focus on the Victorian based series and speciality events and add the two local rounds of the nationals as a once off. However, with some amazing support from Rya's sponsors, he is hitting the road next week to make the trek to Emerald, Queensland, for round three of the Australian Karting Championship. Another huge field of over 70 karters will be on track from Thursday, May 30, with the majority of racing being at night under lights.

Rya thanks all his sponsors. Without them, he wouldn't be able to keep doing what he loves.

Rya currently sits second in the Golden Powers Championship with three more rounds to contest.



Rya Roberts crossed the line in first place, finger raised excitedly for number one. -S

Yea local gallops to victory in state championship

SUNDAY, May 12, saw Yea local Heidi Dredge win the Victorian Ponyclub Championship for her category. The nine-year-old competed in the grade five category, and took victory at Finley in New South Wales. Heidi's mum, Tomi Dredge, spoke to the *Yea Chronicle* about Heidi's horseriding history, and the championship win.

"Heidi started riding as a one-year-old and has been completely obsessed since then. Her pony's name is Seb, and she is a member of the Yarra Glen Pony Club, not Yea. She goes to Sacred Heart Primary School in Yea, and we live in Yea.

"She's had Seb for nearly two years, and she has achieved going to this

state competition; to go into the state competition, they have to qualify and do several competitions beforehand, and go well in them, so she was excited to have qualified," Tomi said.

"Then we ended up having a fantastic weekend up in Finley, in New South Wales. So it's a three part competition, where

they do dressage, show jumping, and cross country over the weekend, and she ended up winning them all and she got her championship. It's very exciting."

The categories for the competition are "not age based, but it is a grade-based competition. She competes in grade five, and we qualified for grade five, so she was in the grade five section."

Asked about how Heidi began riding horses, Tomi said that they've always had horses and that her daughter enjoys being around them.

"We have horses, and she's had lessons locally since she was one, and could just walk. A girl around the corner from us as well has had a pony since she was two, so she's out there pretty much every day on a horse of some kind, just playing with them, and she loves it."

Heidi dreams of going to the Olympics to compete in the equestrian categories.

"She would love to get to the Olympics, but she just loves to spend time with horses really. She loves the competing that she does, so she'll keep doing that. She also really enjoys, we do a lot of trail riding and camping with the horses up in Marysville, with a club up there that we're members of ... she enjoys all aspects of it really," Tomi said.



Heidi Dredge showed her equestrian abilities in Finley on May 12. -S



Heidi Dredge riding her pony Seb to victory in the Victorian Ponyclub Championship for 2024. -S